

Trucking Association, AAA, contractors, transit, local government, environmentalists, road builders.

I find it somewhat ironic that people say this will be a heavy lift, because there is little support for it. When Chairman CAMP offered \$150 billion last week in his tax reform bill or President Obama suggested \$300 billion, where was their broad base of support? Maybe that is why both proposals were declared dead on arrival in the newspapers the next day.

I had a chance to make my case for both short and long-term funding last week in an amazing conference on America's infrastructure challenges at Harvard Business School. After my presentation, I was followed by the president of the AFL-CIO, Rich Trumka, and the president of the U.S. Chamber, Tom Donohue, who said—you know, they don't agree on much—but they both agree that it is time to raise the gas tax.

One of the best examples of leadership was Bill Graves, the president of the American Trucking Association, who has been eloquent and forceful, including when he was Governor of Kansas and raised the gas tax, saying his industry wants their taxes raised.

The AAA issued a strong statement in support, even though their members are not wild about it, because it is needed.

We run out of money September 30 because we have drained the trust fund. Therefore, the United States Department of Transportation is going to stop shipping out money this summer, which means that we are going to start having local governments holding back on their contracts this spring.

While the truckers and AAA have taken a strong leadership stand—not because it is popular, but because it is needed—I hope we in Congress will stop stalling or dealing with short-term fixes. Let's take a stand to raise the gas tax, have an adult conversation with the American public about how to pay for rebuilding and renewing our communities, put hundreds of thousands of people to work, to improve the safety and morning commute for all Americans.

EATING DISORDERS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Florida (Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN) for 5 minutes.

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN. Mr. Speaker, last week people across the Nation and in 51 other countries around the world came together to raise awareness about eating disorders. It was National Eating Disorders Awareness Week, a time not only to learn the facts but also to give people the knowledge and the resources to treat and prevent eating disorders.

Most people know that eating disorders are common in our country. They may even know about them through experience, whether through a

friend, a family member, or perhaps they suffered or continue to struggle with one personally.

What is actually not known is how prevalent they are, the reasons why they occur, and what we can do to prevent these tragic illnesses.

According to the Eating Disorders Coalition, eating disorders impact at least 14 million Americans and are so common that 1 to 2 out of every 100 children in America have one. Although eating disorders affect both men and women, the young and the old, and all the races and economic classes, we know that they are seven times more likely to impact women. In fact, 1 in 200 American women suffers from anorexia, and 2 to 3 in 100 women suffer from bulimia, the two most common eating disorders.

Distinguished by an obsession with thinness and fear of weight gain, anorexia usually results in extreme weight loss because of restricted eating habits.

Bulimia is similar in that those suffering also have an obsession with weight and body image. However, while anorexics restrict their food consumption, bulimics instead purge their food after binge eating.

Both anorexia and bulimia can cause heart problems, brain damage, osteoporosis, and even death. Anorexia has the highest mortality rate of any mental illness, and those suffering from it are 57 more times likely to die of suicide relative to their peers.

Many people are also not aware that they can be genetically predisposed to an eating disorder. As reported by the Eating Disorders Coalition, 50 to 80 percent of the factors determining who develops an eating disorder is based on a person's genes. However, just possessing one of those genes does not automatically result in an eating disorder. Other factors like peer pressure and false advertising can be the ultimate contributors.

More and more academic evidence, as well as a study by the American Medical Association, has linked eating disorders with unrealistic body images found in advertising. By the time our children reach 17 years of age, they will have been exposed to over 250,000 television commercials depicting unrealistic body sizes. Too often, this exposure, combined with other factors like predisposition, feelings of inadequacy, societal pressures, and competition, depression, or anxiety can lead to an eating disorder.

The kinds of altered or photoshopped images found in our media today can cause unrealistic expectations of what the body is supposed to look like, causing emotional, mental, and physical health issues, and often resulting in an eating disorder.

That is why I plan to offer legislation to look at how advertising can more closely resemble the true human form while making sure that artistic expression and the freedom of media outlets is not restricted. If enacted into law, this bill would have the Federal Trade

Commission work with stakeholders like the Eating Disorders Coalition and other experts across our Nation to study the serious impact of advertising that promotes unrealistic body image expectations, and then report back to Congress on how to best stop the destructive impact of this practice.

Together, Congress can have a positive impact on the tragic epidemic of eating disorders. I look forward to working with my colleagues to bring this important legislation to the floor soon.

COMMEMORATION OF FERDINAND VINCENT ALLISON, JR.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. BUTTERFIELD) for 5 minutes.

Mr. BUTTERFIELD. Mr. Speaker, I rise this morning to honor the life and work of a remarkable community leader, Ferdinand Vincent "Pete" Allison, Jr., who passed on Monday, March 3, at the age of 91. Pete Allison was a pillar in the Durham, North Carolina, community. He was a personable, kind, and effective banking leader who took great pride in his work, but even greater pride in his family. He fought for justice; he fought for equality when and where he could.

Pete Allison successfully used his banking career to enrich the lives of countless individuals through his involvement in many organizations and charities. The sympathies of the House of Representatives are with Pete's entire family during this difficult time.

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Mr. Speaker, I last visited Mr. Allison and his family less than 48 hours before his passing. He sat in the family's living room and participated in our very serious conversation. As I departed the home, he told me that he had been so sick, and my response to him was that I knew he had had some difficult days, but that he must know that he was blessed. He was blessed to be surrounded by a loving and supportive wife and family, and he responded that he was aware of that fact.

Mr. Allison was on schedule to have been inducted into the North Carolina Banking Hall of Fame. Only 24 other individuals, Mr. Speaker, have been awarded this great honor in our State.

Pete Allison was a graduate of Hampton Institute—now known as Hampton University—an institution that he loved and revered. Following graduation, he earned a master's of business administration from New York University.

Highly educated, but not sure which career path he would take, Mr. Allison, upon graduation, made a trip to Durham to visit his family, who lived in this historic community.

His father worked at North Carolina Mutual Life Insurance Company. Mr. Allison was awed on that visit. He was awed by Durham and its thriving environment for African American business.